

Minutes Formal City Council Meeting July 17, 2008

Minutes of the Formal Council Meeting of Thursday, July 17, 2008, held at 6:00 p.m. in the Harry E. Mitchell Government Center, Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 31 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Hugh Hallman
Vice Mayor Hut Hutson
Councilmember P Ben Arredondo
Councilmember Barbara J. Carter
Councilmember Shana Ellis
Councilmember Mark W. Mitchell
Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian

Mayor Hallman called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

1. Councilmember Ellis gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Hallman led the audience in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.
3. **COUNCILMEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - **Councilmember Carter** stated that eight years have gone by quickly. She thanked her Council colleagues with whom she has served over the years and added that it has been an honor working with them to make Tempe a great place to live. It is a better place because of their dedication and service and this Council will continue to do many great things. She also thanked everyone for a lot of great material that has been provided to her over the years that she can use in her next career as a stand-up comedian. City staff is the best and she appreciated all of their help and support through the years. She added a special thanks to her Council aide, Sheri Partridge, who was with her from day one; she couldn't express her appreciation for always being there for her. One of the greatest joys of serving on the Council is having the opportunity to meet so many people and she has met and worked with so many wonderful people from this community. There is nothing greater than a community that knows what it cares about and then supports it. That's why she has served here and has lived here in Tempe. She thanked all of the community members for their support over the years. She joked that she didn't know whether the two new councilmembers drank or used prescription drugs, but they probably will. She has high hopes, however, for the new

councilmembers and she hoped they would stay true to their core values, listen twice as much as they speak, and always remember that there are multiple sides to every issue. She also thanked her friends for their support. "When times are good, your friends know who you are. When times are bad, you know who your friends are." She thanked them for being her friends. Most importantly, words cannot express the gratitude she feels for her family. They didn't sign on for the rocky road of politics, but they were there to help her. She thanked them for their sacrifices and added that she will never be able to repay them. She didn't know what is next for her, but she has faith that she will find something rewarding and interesting and she will always give back to this community. The opportunity to serve this community has changed her life forever.

- **Vice Mayor Hutson** stated that he is just a plain guy and always goes to the bottom line. He thanked his wife, Sandi, for sticking with him for 43 years, and without her, he could never have done this. He couldn't begin to tell the citizens how much it has meant to him to serve and fulfill a dream he has had since 1968. City staff is the best and he also couldn't have done it without them. He lost the battle, but he didn't lose the war. It will take more than losing an election to run him out of town. He recently told the City Manager that three or four months will go by and he will say, "Isn't Hut ever going to leave?" He has talked with the new councilmembers and he was serious when he told them that he is available to help. If we don't help them, they won't do well for us. It is important that we help the two new members to be successful, because when they are successful, the whole City will be successful and he is committed to that. He added that he couldn't begin to tell his colleagues how much they have meant to him and what a pleasure it has been to serve with them. It has been a lifelong dream and he loves them.
- **Councilmember Arredondo** stated that it would be hard to travel to Tempe and look at the Arts Center and not think that Barb Carter played a big role in it. Concerning her commitment to youth, she has provided outstanding leadership when it came to skateboarding and showing that the kids in Tempe deserved a skate park, and that skateboards and bicycles can survive with the right planning. It required "outside the box" thinking. He will miss her humor, but he has had eight years, and that's enough. Barb's humor does not have any boundaries, but it is an affectionate type of humor. He added that today the City is better than when she first came on the Council.

He stressed that Vice Mayor Hutson has always promoted that a city council is as good as it moves a city forward in the right direction. He has always maintained that and lived that value. When we think of Hut Hutson, we have to think of the number of years he has been involved in the City. He has served on countless boards and commissions, and countless times he has stepped up to the plate and served Tempe. Hut is a very caring individual and he has made Tempe better by his service. Hut will be remembered for the statement, "Let's hurry up and get to the bottom line." That is an important factor. He thanked him for his service and this City is better today because Hut Hutson served on the City Council.

- **Councilmember Mitchell** stated that in 2000, he and Barb Carter were running for their first Council seat. It was a very interesting election because so many people ran. She became a great friend over the past eight years and he hoped that will continue into the future. What Barb Carter has done

for this community, for cultural services, for the Arts Center, diversity, and youth, as well as teaching at Corona del Sol High School and serving on the City Council, has made Tempe a better city. Often we only hear about what's wrong and what the issues are, but we need to take a step back and look at how great Tempe is. Since she has been on Council, Tempe has been named "All America City", and Tempe has been named one of the Top 10 communities to raise youth. That doesn't happen without the great citizens of Tempe, City staff, and the Council colleagues. It has been an honor to be part of that with her.

He has known Hut Hutson for his entire life. Mr. Hutson has meant so much to this community over the years from running the bond elections, to making sure the Butte is decorated during the holidays, and his commitment to the community is one that most people won't forget. Tempe is better for his service.

- **Councilmember Ellis** appreciated the fact that both Councilmember Carter and Vice Mayor Hutson said that we need to mentor the new councilmembers because two years ago she was one of the new people who was taken under their wings and that taught her a lot. Barb Carter's sense of humor got us through many long meetings. Barb took everything seriously, but could bring levity in at just the right moment. Barb taught her a lot. She and Vice Mayor Hutson shared an office as well as a Council aide and she learned a lot from Hut's confidence in everything that he did. He was always so sure of what he was doing and where he was going and how he felt about issues, and she hoped that someday she would have that compassion and confidence. She is happy that both have said they would still be involved as both have such history in Tempe and know so much about the issues. She thanked them for everything they have done for Tempe.
- **Councilmember Shekerjian** stated that she and Councilmember Carter have shared an office, as well as a Council aide and she has jokingly called their office "the estrogen zone" because they were the first two councilwomen to share an office. Barb leaves a legacy because of her work with cultural services and the Center for the Arts. Many people's legacies aren't as physical. When she was elected, Barb gave her a book entitled, "Why Jenny Can't Lead." It was written in the early 1970's and she found it to be an outdated book for the City of Tempe. Barb has broken many barriers and she has been a leader in change. Machiavelli once said, "Let it be noted that there is no more delicate matter to take in hand, nor more dangerous to conduct, nor more doubtful in its success, than to set up as the leader in the introduction of changes. For he who innovates will have for his enemies all those who are well off under the existing order of things and only lukewarm supporters in those who might be better off under the new." Barb was a trendsetter and an agent for change when it came to being a woman leader. There have been other councilwomen through the years who have served, but if we look at Barb's leadership with other women in this community, the Center for the Arts probably would not have happened if it had been left up to the guys. She thanked Barb for being that innovator in change.

Vice Mayor Hutson was the first to step up to the plate and lend his assistance when she was elected. He did it in such a way that he never made her feel that he was talking down to her. She always knew if she needed to know what happened, for example, on the Aviation Commission or the

Arts Commission, she could ask him because he read every set of minutes published by any board, commission, or council committee. That takes a lot of time and a lot of passion for this community. He has been an awesome fiscal steward. He respects the tax dollars more than he respects his own money. That's really what we want. Hut was never afraid of doing just the "grunt work." Theodore Roosevelt said, "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust, sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again, who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, and spends himself in the worthy cause, who at best knows the triumphs of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails with daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat." That sums up who Hut Hutson is. He never does anything halfway. It has been an honor to serve with both Hut and Barb.

- **Mayor Hallman** added that he and Barb Carter started serving together in 2000 and this community owes her a debt of gratitude for that service. He first met her when she was working on the Arts Commission. She was the Chair and in that role she very nearly completely carried on her back the opportunity and brought to fruition the Center for the Arts. She made the presentation to the City Council that stated it was the time to move forward with the Center for the Arts for the citizens of Tempe. It was a compelling presentation and ultimately she, with a number of other workers in the community, brought forward the arts tax that funded and led to the construction. Not only that, she then worked tirelessly once she got elected to the Council to make sure the Center for the Arts was the fabulous building that it is. That's a legacy in and of itself, but there is so much more. Immediately north of this building is "A" Mountain. In the most difficult vote he has ever witnessed, Barb Carter was the key vote that made the difference whether that Butte would stand for time immemorial as a natural environment with the opportunity to celebrate the ancient history of the City of Tempe, as well as Tempe's modern history. Without her courage, a good chunk of that Butte would have been blown away and it was very politically difficult. Constituencies lined up against preserving that Butte and it was Barb who had served only ninety days who took on an extraordinary burden to save the Butte. That stands as one of her great legacies. He got to serve with her on the Community Services Committee and through her leadership as Chair, the park preserve ordinance was put forward. That ordinance will preserve the slopes of the Butte as a place of natural beauty and opportunity. Between that and the Center for the Arts, there are dozens of other examples of leadership and creation of a legacy that she and her family should be very proud of. Also, there's a reason that after her first year or so of service when Barb was sitting immediately to his left, she moved down one seat. Sitting next to each other, they spent far too much time breaking one another up to run productive meetings. He will miss her sense of humor.

His first opportunity to work with Vice Mayor Hutson was in 1993 and Hut had already committed more than thirty years of service to the community. He was heading up an organization that was putting together the "Toast to Light", a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society which raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Cancer Society. That's just one example of the dozens of organizations to which he has committed himself. Hut has always rolled up his sleeves and worked in the trenches for the community. He has rarely stuck his head up to the point where he got himself elected. Instead, he was always content and very effective in those trenches.

Both he and Barb will continue to serve the community. Barb has already put her name to the upcoming gala for the Friends of the Tempe Center for the Arts and has agreed to chair that event in November. Hut has already agreed to continue to serve on the Ad Hoc Finance Committee which continues to work to make sure this City's finances remain solid and strong. That's the kind of commitment they will continue to make in the community. It isn't "good-bye," but it is "so long just for this evening." He thanked them both for their service to the community.

4. SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Mayor Hallman noted that in 1998, two new councilmembers were elected and two retired. In 2000, two new councilmembers were elected and two retired. It was an unusual event in 2002 when only one person retired and one new councilmember was elected. In 2004 and 2006, two new councilmembers were elected. Transition in this community is the norm and it gives the opportunity to bring in new ideas and new blood and at the same time have some steady hands to make sure we continue with some longevity and continuation of our tradition. Tonight we have the opportunity swear in two new members to the City Council and one incumbent who will continue to serve.

He further introduced State Senator Meg Burton Cahill, State Representative Ed Ableser, State Representative David Schapira, Tempe Elementary School District Board Member Rochelle Wells, Mayor of Guadalupe Rebecca Jimenez, former Councilmember Joe Spracale, former State Representative Mark Thompson, former State Representative Clance Jayne, former Councilmember Linda Spears, former Mayor Bill LoPiano, and traveling from Casa Grande, former Mayor Bob Mitchell.

Mayor Hallman introduced Councilmember Mark Mitchell, who was joined by his wife, Debbie, his daughters, Sophia and Allison, his mother, Marianne Mitchell, and his mother-in-law, Joan Girardi. He also introduced the two newly elected councilmembers: Joel Navarro, joined by his mother and father, Stephanie and Tony Navarro, his son, Parker, daughter, Jillian, and his brothers, John and Nick, and Corey Woods, joined by his parents, Donald and Barbara Woods, and his brother, Brandon.

City Clerk Jan Hort administered the oath of office for Councilmembers Mark Mitchell, Joel Navarro and Corey Woods.

Mayor Hallman was joined by his wife, Susan, sons Louis and Marcus, and his father, Louis Hallman.

City Clerk Jan Hort administered the oath of office for Mayor Hugh Hallman.

4a. ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR

Motion by Councilmember Shekerjian to elect Councilmember Shana Ellis as Vice Mayor. Second by Councilmember Mitchell. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote, 7-0.

5. COUNCILMEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Councilmember Woods** thanked Hut Hutson and Barb Carter for their hard work in the community. Both have been a tremendous inspiration to him. He has spent time talking with Barb Carter and she has offered her assistance; she looked him in the eye and said, “you work for me now.” That is true. He met Hut Hutson in 2005 and Mr. Hutson has always been very supportive, even during the time they were running against each other. He will be calling Mr. Hutson for advice. Both he and Barb Carter have so much experience and wisdom and he will look to them and to his Council colleagues to make sure this transition is as smooth as possible. He also thanked his co-chair, Judge Cecil Patterson, who couldn't be present tonight. Without him, he could not have done this. Judge Patterson contacted him during his first campaign and expressed support and during the second campaign, he served as co-chair. He also thanked his treasurer Chris Rosner for his hard work. He thanked his co-chairs Elias and Cecilia Esquer. They were extremely helpful and he would not have gotten here without their help. Their guidance and support was outstanding. Frieda Pollack has always been supportive and a good friend. He also thanked his roommate and friend who had been so helpful with the campaigns, and also Brie and Stacey. He also thanked his brother, Brandon. At one time while home from college, he and Brandon were talking and Brandon told him he had been a great brother. He feels, however, that what he has accomplished only scratches the surface of what Brandon has done in defending our country by serving in Iraq. It is so important in life to have parents who are supportive of their children in whatever they do. When he told his dad that he wanted to run for office, his dad said that whatever he wanted to do, they would support him. Their love, guidance and support mean so much. Despite the fact that they live in New York and he lives here, he talks to them often because they are the guidance he needs to get by. Without them, he would never have been at this point in his life. He hopes to live up to the things they have accomplished during their lives. To those residents of Tempe who supported him, he offered his thanks. This has been an amazing experience and he looks forward to working with his Council colleagues and the Mayor. He is humbled and honored to serve.
- **Councilmember Navarro** thanked Hut Hutson and Barb Carter for the awesome job they have done for the community. He is excited to continue to work with them. This has been an exciting road and he expressed gratitude to all those who have helped him. He was born and raised here and has always been excited about the community. He is excited about where Tempe is going and the present and past Council. His chair, Joseph Spracale, guided him in understanding what this is all about, and he thanked him for this support. He also thanked those who managed his campaign and the endorsements from the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, Police and Fire Departments. This was his first time running. He is just a community guy who has been involved behind the scenes. He supports the charities and has been involved in sports and kids' programs throughout his life. He appreciates what this community is about and he wants to give back to his community with his time on the City Council. He also thanked his parents for their guidance and he is thankful for the continued support of his family, especially his children. This is an exciting time and he is excited about what this Council will achieve. There are always issues, but he follows a football mentality that “we talk, talk, talk until it is game time.” It is game time.
- **Councilmember Mitchell** thanked the residents of Tempe for giving him the opportunity to continue his service to the City. This is a great City and it is truly an honor to serve. Without the support of

his family, he wouldn't be here. He thanked his wife, Debbie. They have been married for twelve years and have two beautiful daughters, and without their support, he couldn't do it. Four years ago, his daughter Sophia was only two years old. When he was first elected to Council, Allison was only eleven months old. Time has gone by so fast and we have seen Tempe grow in ways that communities around us have been unable to grow. He is very proud to be serving this community. He also thanked his parents for their support and guidance, as well for the support of his Uncle Bob and all of his cousins. His campaign manager, Nikki Amberg, couldn't be here tonight, but she helped him tremendously with the campaign, as well as his treasurer, Gregorio Garcia. His campaign staff helped to make it all possible. He looks forward to working with his new colleagues. He has known Councilmember Navarro since high school and he has also known Councilmember Woods for many years. This community has so many wonderful opportunities to move forward and Tempe is in a good position to take advantage of those opportunities. He also expressed his gratitude for serving with Mayor Hallman, both in his capacity as councilperson and as Mayor, and he appreciates his support. He looks forward to continuing to help make Tempe the great City that it is.

- **Councilmember Shekerjian** stated that she was short on advice because the City elects good people to represent them, and that is part of the reason this City has continued to advance and be forward-thinking and ahead-of-the-curve. She added, however, that the Council is lucky to have such great diversity in its perspective and lucky to live in a community where people really listen to what they have to say, as opposed to what they look like. We have been lucky to have women on our Council and our diversity isn't strictly in gender or race or ethnicity, but rather in thought. She detects a great deal of respect, not only for the citizens of this community, but, in the case of Councilmember Mitchell and Mayor Hallman, for their Council colleagues, and in the case of the two new councilmembers, for the current Council. That's what will help this Council make great decisions for this community. The Council is very fortunate because it is composed of a variety of people in different generations and different decades, spanning from one in his 60's down to one in his 20's. That kind of diversity provides a wider view of the world. She is excited about the great things the Council will get to do. She thanked them for stepping out and deciding to run.
- **Councilmember Ellis** stated that she and Councilmember Navarro served together on the Human Relations Commission some years ago. She always felt he had leadership potential and she was pleased that he continued to grow. She and Councilmember Woods ran together in the Council race two years and she was impressed with his desire and how much he wanted to be a councilmember. He joined boards and commissions and worked hard to get to know about the community. She added that she was in band in middle school with Councilmember Mitchell and Joseph Spracale was the principal.
- **Councilmember Arredondo** congratulated Councilmember Navarro on a hard campaign and he understands why he has the work ethic and values that he will bring to this table because he knows his parents very well and they did a good job of making sure their son understood those two things. Councilmember Navarro is a captain in the Fire Department and his brother also serves with the Fire Department. It is nice to know that public safety will be represented well. He misses traveling to New Mexico with Councilmember Navarro's parents to watch their son play football and listen to his

dad tell about how great he was. The determination Joel brings is the same determination he played with on the field. He also got to meet Councilmember Woods' parents and it is very easy to understand where he got his values. Parents like that just don't miss and they got it right with him. He didn't know what happened, but Corey's brother is pretty good looking. He knew from experience that sometimes in a large family, we just come in second. With that said, Corey understands what tenacity is, what the underdog has to be, and he knows that he doesn't accept "no" until he figures out how "yes" would be better served. His honesty will come to the table and it will serve well. He added to the Mayor that in any organization, someone has to provide the leadership and that's what the Mayor does for this organization. We will have four more years of that leadership and he congratulated him on a hard-fought campaign. The Mayor was the only one who was worried. The Mayor has never forgotten who he is, where he's been, or what he has done. Whenever the Mayor believes something, you can rest assured that the Council will spend whatever hours necessary trying to understand and trying to see everyone's point of view. He was glad the Mayor's father is around because that's his lifeblood. One of these days his father will be able to call him and he will understand the values of coaching. Mr. Hallman was an outstanding coach who served people very well, and he congratulated him. He would only ask that when Hugh Hallman leaves, we can call him coach.

6. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor stated that he would make his comments at the end of the meeting.

7. AGENDA

All items in these minutes identified with an asterisk (*) are **public hearing items**. All items listed on the agenda are approved with one council action. Items scheduled for Introduction/First Public Hearing will be heard but not adopted at this meeting. Items scheduled for Second Public Hearing/Final Adoption will be voted upon at this meeting.

Mayor Hallman announced consideration of the **AGENDA**.

Motion by Councilmember Arredondo to approve the Agenda as read. Second by Councilmember Mitchell. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0.

A. Miscellaneous Items

1. Approved the Report of Claims Paid to be filed for audit for the months of May and June, 2008.
COMMENTS: A copy of the detailed claims report may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Office.
2. Approved the reappointment of MaryAnne Majestic as City Court Judge and approved **Contract #2004-161A**, an employment agreement under the terms described therein.
DOCUMENT NAME: [20080717mclca01.pdf](#) **COURT ADMINISTRATION (0501-02)**

3. Approved **with condition** an Amended Subdivision Plat for TACO BELL – SOUTHERN PALMS located at 1674 East Southern Avenue.

COMMENTS: (PL070112) (Stephen Mariani, owner / Maralyce Corbett, Looker & Capello Architects, applicant) consists of modification to an existing subdivision plat to change property lines to conform with new Taco Bell Restaurant within approximately 2,806 s.f., on .538 net acres, located at 1674 E. Southern Avenue, within the Southern Palms Shopping Center, in the PCC-2 Planned Commercial Center General District. The request includes the following:

SBD08018 – Amended Subdivision Plat to modify property lines.

The following condition was also approved:

1. The Subdivision Plat shall be put into proper engineered format with appropriate signature blanks and recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office through the City of Tempe's Development Services Department on or before July 17, 2009. Failure to record the plan within one year of City Council approval shall make the plan null and void.

DOCUMENT NAME: [20080717dsdk01.pdf](#) **PLANNED DEVELOPMENT**
(0406)

4. Approved **with conditions** an Amended Subdivision and Condominium Plat for 10th AND ASH PLACE located at 115 West 10th Street.

COMMENTS: (PL080016) (Gerald Leclair property owner / applicant) located at 115 West 10th Street, in the R-2, Multi – Family Residential District. The request includes the following:

SBD08001- An amended subdivision and condominium plat, combining two (2) lots into one (1) consisting of 4 units, on 0.4343 net acres.

The following conditions were also approved:

1. The owner(s) shall provide a continuing care condition, covenant and restriction for all of the project's landscaping, required by Ordinance or located in any common area on site. The CC&R's shall be reviewed and in a form satisfactory to the Development Services Manager and City Attorney prior to recordation of Condominium Plat.
2. The Condominium Plat shall be put into proper engineered format with appropriate signature blanks and recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office through the City of Tempe's Development Services Department on or before July 17, 2009. Failure to record the plan within one year of Council approval shall make the plan null and void.
3. The applicant shall complete a full "reserve study" for the site, identifying all common elements' life expectancy and future replacement cost, which shall be disclosed to future buyers of the units. Acknowledgement of the reserve study shall be included in the CC&R's. This study shall be provided to staff for verification prior to recordation of Condominium Plat.

DOCUMENT NAME: [20080717dsjc01.pdf](#) **PLANNED DEVELOPMENT**
(0406)

5. Approved **with condition** a Condominium Plat for APACHE ASL TRAILS located at 2428 East Apache Boulevard.

COMMENTS: (PL070371) (Cardinal Capital Management, Inc., owner; Brian Qualls, LP/GAS Engineering, applicant) for a Condominium Plat for a mixed-use

development serving special needs seniors, consisting of approximately 75 apartments and four commercial retail, office and restaurant spaces on Lot 1, on 1.8 acres located at 2428 E. Apache, in the MU-4 Mixed Use District. The request includes the following:
SBD08022 – Condominium Plat for four commercial condominium units on Lot 1.

The following condition was also approved:

1. The Subdivision Plat shall be put into proper engineered format with appropriate signature blanks and recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office through the City of Tempe's Development Services Department on or before July 17, 2009. Failure to record the plan within one year of City Council approval shall make the plan null and void.

DOCUMENT NAME: [20080717dsdk02.pdf](#) **PLANNED** **DEVELOPMENT**
(0406)

6. Approved **with condition** a Final Subdivision Plat for BASELINE RETAIL located at 2005 West Baseline Road.

COMMENTS: (PL060581) (Stephen Craig Cooper, 2005 Baseline L.L.C. owner; Kevin Harding, Fergis and Harding Inc., applicant) for a Final Subdivision Plat on +/- 1.593 net acres located at 2005 West Baseline Road in the CSS, Commercial Shopping and Services District, including the following:

SBD08011 – Final Subdivision Plat to combine the property into one lot.

The following condition was also approved:

1. Place the Subdivision Plat into proper engineered format with appropriate signature blanks. Record the Subdivision Plat with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office through the City of Tempe's Development Services Department on or before one year from date of City Council approval (July 17, 2009). Failure to record the plan by one year from date of City Council approval shall make the approval of the Subdivision Plat null and void.

DOCUMENT NAME: [20080717dskko01.pdf](#) **PLANNED**
DEVELOPMENT (0406)

- B. Award of Bids/Contracts – None.
- C. Ordinances and Items for Introduction/First Hearing - None.
- D. Ordinances and Items for Second Hearing/Final Adoption
- *7. DELETED
- E. Resolutions – None.

6. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES** – None.

7. **CURRENT EVENTS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Councilmember Arredondo stated that it is great to share an office with Councilmember Mitchell.

He can hear him call his father and we have a direct link to Washington, D.C. If you call Congressman Mitchell and are unable to reach him, just call Councilmember Mitchell and he can reach him. Councilmember Mitchell comes from an outstanding family that understands Tempe, as well as politics, and that seems to have rubbed off on him in the right way. When it comes to ASU, he is "Mr. Sun Devil" and he thanked him for his leadership in amateur sports for Tempe because that's what really makes Tempe a little bit better. His commitment to youth means a lot. He looks forward to working with Councilmember Mitchell. He stated that it is nice to know Congressman Mitchell and his wife live right down the street, but it is nicer to know that he can share an office with Councilmember Mitchell.

- **Mayor Hallman** stated that it has been an honor and privilege to serve as Tempe's Mayor for the last four years. Today marks the end of ten years of service on and off this Council. People have been looking out into the future and decrying all kinds of difficulties, but when he looks around this community, he sees nothing but hope and optimism. He thanked Hut Hutson and Barb Carter for their great service in the community. He previously mentioned Barb Carter's great courage in an early vote in her career. She wasn't the only one who had to make that decision. Councilmember Mitchell had just joined the Council as well and he had to take a very courageous stand and decide to change the direction the City was moving. Each demonstrated through that effort a willingness to listen, weigh the facts, understand the issues at stake, and realize the opportunity a change could bring for a new future. They exercised their voices and their opportunity to vote and demonstrated extraordinary courage. He would encourage the new councilmembers to use that as an example for the service that they can provide to this community; it takes guts to set aside all preconceived notions of who they are and what they will be and, instead, be true to themselves. It is important to weigh every issue with an open mind for an opportunity to do the best we can together for this community. Councilmember Arredondo already said most of what he planned to say to Councilmember Mitchell. Councilmember Mitchell has served for eight years on this Council and has demonstrated this family's commitment to the community, going back not just to his father who served for eight years on the Council and sixteen years as Mayor, then in the State Legislature, and now as our Congressman, but back to his grandfather who demonstrated a great love and commitment to this community. There is a reason there is a Mitchell School, a Mitchell Park, a Mitchell Street, a Mitchell Plaza, and a Mitchell statue. That is a legacy this family can be proud of and Councilmember Mitchell has been following that legacy in a beautiful and great way. We now march forward and he gets to stand here and say that he has never been more optimistic despite what we see out there in the world, despite concern about the economic downturn, and despite the uncertainty in the international environment. When we look forward to Tempe's future, we can recognize that Tempe is at the center of it all. As one example, when one examines the difficulties in the real estate market, it doesn't take much study to recognize that the areas hardest hit and having the most difficulty are in the outskirts of this Valley. We don't wish them ill, but we need to recognize that as we move from those outskirts toward the center of the Valley, it gets brighter and brighter. While real estate values in the outskirts have fallen as much as 45 percent, the City of Tempe has the lowest reduction in values of any major city. Yes, there has been some slight decline in valuation, but the economy is not monolithic. Pain and success are not shared equally and it is this community's long success and working together that has brought us to a point where we are going to continue to succeed. In this economic downturn, the City

of Tempe has suffered some. We have seen a reduction of approximately 1.4 percent of total sales tax revenues which is about \$2M. Comparing where we are today to where we were in March of 2001 when this country entered a recession, this City saw 27 successive months of reduced revenues, an absolute reduction of revenues for more than two years. This Council, as a team with Ms. Carter's and Mr. Hutson's service, rebuilt the economy in Tempe so a mere four years later, we concluded the recession. This economy has been rebalanced to provide better jobs and better opportunities for our future and an increase in revenues that is the envy of the State with an almost 40 percent increase in revenue for this City even with the economic downturn. That is an amazing accomplishment. While it isn't a great thing to see \$4 per gallon gasoline impacting the economy of the nation, Tempe is right in the center of it all. People can live, work and play in the City of Tempe; more and more people realize that. They understand the value of being able to live near where they work and be surrounded by magnificent amenities like the Center for the Arts, or the 2,000 acre recreational area called Papago Park and Town Lake with some of the best outdoor recreational activities, culture and other amenities one could ever have. Then we look at this Council. He invited Council to join him. Elections are always difficult, but as we watched the election unfold this time, it was very clear that we had nothing but great candidates, two of whom joined the Council this evening. This is a wonderful group of people. They have great talent and they will serve our community well with great integrity. Ladies and gentlemen, we look forward to a fantastic and bright future. In large part, we can be grateful that we have these fine leaders to lead us toward that future. Thank you very much.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

I, Jan Hort, the duly-appointed City Clerk of the City of Tempe, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby certify the above to be the minutes of the Formal City Council meeting of July 17, 2008, by the Tempe City Council, Tempe, Arizona.

Hugh Hallman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jan Hort, City Clerk

Dated this day of , 2008.